

1 **In the Claims**

2 Claims 1, 8, 9, 10, 19, 27, 29, 35, 36, 39, 47, 48, 51, 56 and 61 are
3 amended.

4 Claims 1-76 remain in the application and are listed below:

5
6 1. (Currently Amended) A method of processing media content
7 comprising:

8 receiving a physical ID that corresponds to a specific media upon which
9 content resides that can be experienced by a user;

10 mapping the physical ID to a logical ID; and

11 searching a database that contains metadata associated with the specific
12 media by using the logical ID as a basis for a search query, wherein different
13 instances of a specific media with the same content thereon are associated with
14 different physical IDs that are mappable to the same logical ID.

15
16 2. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising returning the
17 metadata to a client.

18
19 3. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising formatting the
20 metadata in a schema and returning the formatted metadata to a client.

21
22 4. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising formatting the
23 metadata in a XML schema and returning the formatted metadata to a client.
24
25

1 5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the specific media
2 comprises a CD.

3
4 6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the specific media
5 comprises a DVD.

6
7 7. (Original) One or more computer-readable media having computer-
8 readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer, cause the
9 computer to implement the method of claim 1.

10
11 8. (Currently Amended) A server comprising:
12 one or more processors;
13 one or more storage devices; and
14 software code resident on the one or more storage devices which, when
15 executed by the one or more processors, cause the processors to:
16 receive a physical ID that corresponds to a specific media upon which
17 content resides that can be experienced by a user;
18 map the physical ID to a logical ID;
19 search a database that contains metadata associated with the specific media
20 by using the logical ID as a basis for a search query;
21 format the metadata in a XML schema; and
22 return the formatted metadata to a client, wherein different instances of a
23 specific media with the same content thereon are associated with different physical
24 IDs that are mappable to the same logical ID.
25

1 9. (Currently Amended) One or more computer-readable media having
2 computer-readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer,
3 cause the computer to:

4 receive a physical ID that corresponds to a specific media upon which
5 content resides that can be experienced by a user;

6 map the physical ID to a logical ID;

7 search a database that contains metadata associated with the specific media
8 by using the logical ID as a basis for a search query;

9 format the metadata in a XML schema; and

10 return the formatted metadata to a client, wherein different instances of a
11 specific media with the same content thereon are associated with different physical
12 IDs that are mappable to the same logical ID.

13
14 10. (Currently Amended) A method of processing media content
15 comprising:

16 associating a physical ID with a logical ID, the physical ID corresponding
17 to a specific media associated with content that can be experienced by a user;

18 using the logical ID to query one or more databases that contain metadata
19 associated with the specific media; and

20 returning metadata associated with the specific media to a client, wherein
21 different instances of a specific media with the same content thereon are
22 associated with different physical IDs that are mappable to the same logical ID.

23
24 11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said returning comprises
25 returning the metadata via the Internet.

1
2 12. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said returning comprises
3 formatting the metadata in a schema and returning the formatted metadata to the
4 client.

5
6 13. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said returning comprises
7 formatting the metadata in a XML schema and returning the formatted metadata to
8 the client.

9
10 14. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the specific media
11 comprises a CD.

12
13 15. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the specific media
14 comprises a DVD.

15
16 16. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the specific media
17 comprises a file.

18
19 17. (Original) One or more computer-readable media having computer-
20 readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer, cause the
21 computer to implement the method of claim 10.

22
23 18. (Original) A server computer programmed with instructions which,
24 when executed by the server computer, cause it to implement the method of claim
25 10.

1
2 19. (Currently Amended) A method of processing media content
3 comprising:

4 receiving a physical ID that corresponds to a specific media associated with
5 content that can be experienced by a user;

6 attempting to map the physical ID to a logical ID;

7 if a logical ID is found that corresponds to the physical ID, searching a
8 database that contains metadata associated with the specific media by using the
9 logical ID as a basis for a search query;

10 if no logical ID is found that corresponds to the physical ID, attempting to
11 establish a logical ID for the physical ID, wherein different instances of a specific
12 media with the same content thereon are associated with different physical IDs
13 that are mappable to the same logical ID.

14
15 20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein said attempting
16 comprises causing a Wizard user interface (UI) to be presented to a user via a
17 client computer so that information pertaining to the user's specific media can be
18 collected from the user.

19
20 21. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein said attempting
21 comprises attempting to identify the specific media to ascertain whether a logical
22 ID already exists for the specific media.

1 22. (Original) The method of claim 19 further comprising if said
2 attempting is unsuccessful, enabling the user to establish a physical ID-to-logical
3 ID mapping for their physical ID.

4
5 23. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein said specific media
6 comprises a CD.

7
8 24. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein said specific media
9 comprises a DVD.

10
11 25. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein said specific media
12 comprises a file.

13
14 26. (Original) One or more computer-readable media having computer-
15 readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer, cause the
16 computer to implement the method of claim 19.

17
18 27. (Currently Amended) A server computer comprising:
19 one or more processors;
20 one or more storage devices; and
21 software code resident on the one or more storage devices which, when
22 executed by the one or more processors, cause the processors to:
23 receive a physical ID that corresponds to a specific media upon
24 which content resides that can be experienced by a user;
25 attempt to map the physical ID to a logical ID;

1 if a logical ID is found that corresponds to the physical ID, search a
2 database that contains metadata associated with the specific media by using
3 the logical ID as a basis for a search query; and

4 if no logical ID is found that corresponds to the physical ID, attempt
5 to establish a logical ID for the physical ID, wherein different instances of a
6 specific media with the same content thereon are associated with different
7 physical IDs that are mappable to the same logical ID.

8
9 28. (Original) The server computer of claim 27, wherein the software
10 code causes the processors to attempt to establish a logical ID for the physical ID
11 by causing a Wizard user interface (UI) to be presented to a user via a client
12 computer so that information pertaining to the user's specific media can be
13 collected from the user.

14
15 29. (Currently Amended) A method of processing media content
16 comprising:

17 receiving a physical ID that corresponds to a specific media upon which
18 content resides that can be experienced by a user;

19 attempting to map the physical ID to a logical ID by searching a first table
20 containing physical ID-to-logical ID mappings using a first search;

21 if the first search is unsuccessful, searching a second table containing
22 physical ID-to-logical ID mappings using a second search; and

23 if a logical ID is found that corresponds to the physical ID, searching a
24 database that contains metadata associated with the specific media by using the
25 logical ID as a basis for a search query, wherein different instances of a specific

1 media with the same content thereon are associated with different physical IDs
2 that are mappable to the same logical ID.

3
4 30. (Original) The method of claim 29, wherein the first table is a trusted
5 table.

6
7 31. (Original) The method of claim 29, wherein the first table is a trusted
8 table and the second table is less trusted than the first table.

9
10 32. (Original) The method of claim 29, wherein the second table
11 contains user-provided physical ID-to-logical ID mappings.

12
13 33. (Original) The method of claim 29, wherein the first search
14 comprises a low cost search, and further comprising if no logical ID is found for
15 the physical ID, searching the first table using a third search, the third search
16 comprising a higher cost search than the first search.

17
18 34. (Original) One or more computer-readable media having computer-
19 readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer, cause the
20 computer to implement the method of claim 29.

21
22 35. (Currently Amended) One or more computer-readable media having
23 computer-readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer,
24 cause the computer to:
25

1 receive a physical ID that corresponds to a specific media upon which
2 content resides that can be experienced by a user;

3 attempt to map the physical ID to a logical ID by searching a first table
4 containing physical ID-to-logical ID mappings using a first search, the first search
5 comprising a low cost search;

6 if the first search is unsuccessful, search a second table containing physical
7 ID-to-logical ID mappings using a second search;

8 if the second search is unsuccessful, search the first table using a third
9 search, the third search comprising a higher cost search than the first search; and

10 if a logical ID is found that corresponds to the physical ID, search a
11 database that contains metadata associated with the specific media by using the
12 logical ID as a basis for a search query, wherein different instances of a specific
13 media with the same content thereon are associated with different physical IDs
14 that are mappable to the same logical ID.

15
16 36. (Currently Amended) A method of processing media content
17 comprising:

18 providing a canonical table containing physical ID to logical ID mappings,
19 the physical IDs being associated with specific media containing content that can
20 be experienced by a user, the logical IDs being configured for use in database
21 queries to locate metadata associated with specific media;

22 providing a table containing user-provided physical ID to logical ID
23 mappings;

24 receiving a physical ID associated with a specific media;
25

1 conducting a first low cost search of the canonical table to determine
2 whether there is a matching physical ID with a corresponding logical ID;

3 if the first low cost search is unsuccessful, conducting a second low cost
4 search of the table containing the user-provided physical ID to logical ID
5 mappings to determine whether there is a matching physical ID with a
6 corresponding logical ID;

7 if the second low cost search is unsuccessful, conducting a third higher cost
8 search of the canonical table to determine whether there is a matching physical ID
9 with a corresponding logical ID; and

10 if any of the searches are successful, using the corresponding logical ID to
11 search a database containing metadata associated with the specific media, wherein
12 different instances of a specific media with the same content thereon are
13 associated with different physical IDs that are mappable to the same logical ID.

14
15 37. (Original) The method of claim 36, wherein the specific media
16 comprises CDs.

17
18 38. (Original) The method of claim 36, wherein the specific media
19 comprises DVDs.

20
21 39. (Currently Amended) A method of processing media content
22 comprising:

23 receiving a physical ID that corresponds to a specific media upon which
24 content resides that can be experienced by a user;

25

1 attempting to map the physical ID to a logical ID, the logical ID serving as
2 a basis for a search query of a database that contains metadata associated with the
3 specific media;

4 if no logical ID is found that corresponds to the physical ID, attempting to
5 establish a logical ID for the physical ID by causing a Wizard user interface (UI)
6 to be presented to a user via a client computer so that information pertaining to the
7 user's specific media can be collected from the user, wherein different instances of
8 a specific media with the same content thereon are associated with different
9 physical IDs that are mappable to the same logical ID.

10
11 40. (Original) The method of claim 39 further comprising receiving
12 information from the user, via the Wizard UI, the information pertaining to the
13 user's specific media.

14
15 41. (Original) The method of claim 39, wherein the specific media
16 comprises a CD, and the information collected by the Wizard UI comprises an
17 artist's name.

18
19 42. (Original) The method of claim 39, wherein the specific media
20 comprises a CD, and the information collected by the Wizard UI comprises a CD
21 title.

22
23 43. (Original) The method of claim 39, wherein the specific media
24 comprises a DVD.
25

1 44. (Original) The method of claim 39 further comprising searching for
2 specific media based on the information collected by the Wizard UI.

3
4 45. (Original) The method of claim 44 further comprising forming an
5 association between the received physical ID and a logical ID if said searching
6 finds media that coincides with the user's information.

7
8 46. (Original) The method of claim 44 further comprising if said
9 searching is unsuccessful, prompting the user to enter media-specific information
10 so that an association can be established between the media and a logical ID.

11
12 47. (Currently Amended) One or more computer-readable media having
13 computer-readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer,
14 cause the computer to:

15 receive a physical ID that corresponds to a specific media upon which
16 content resides that can be experienced by a user;

17 attempt to map the physical ID to a logical ID, the logical ID serving as a
18 basis for a search query of a database that contains metadata associated with the
19 specific media;

20 if no logical ID is found that corresponds to the physical ID, attempt to
21 establish a logical ID for the physical ID by causing a Wizard user interface (UI)
22 to be presented to a user via a client computer so that information pertaining to the
23 user's specific media can be collected from the user, wherein different instances of
24 a specific media with the same content thereon are associated with different
25 physical IDs that are mappable to the same logical ID.

1
2 48. (Currently Amended) A system for providing metadata to clients
3 comprising:

4 a server configured to receive physical IDs that correspond to a specific
5 media upon which content resides that can be experienced by a user;

6 one or more databases containing metadata associated with various media;
7 and

8 at least one table containing physical IDs and associated logical IDs to
9 which the physical IDs are mapped, the logical IDs being configured for use by
10 the server in searching the one or more databases for metadata associated with
11 specific media, wherein different instances of a specific media with the same
12 content thereon are associated with different physical IDs that are mappable to the
13 same logical ID.

14
15 49. (Original) The system of claim 48, wherein the server is configured
16 to format metadata in a schema and return the formatted metadata to a client.

17
18 50. (Original) The system of claim 48, wherein the server is configured
19 to format metadata in a XML schema and return the formatted metadata to a
20 client.

21
22 51. (Currently Amended) A system for providing metadata to clients
23 comprising:

24 a canonical table comprising multiple physical IDs associated with specific
25 media containing content that can be experienced by a user;

1 multiple logical IDs associated with the multiple physical IDs;
2 individual physical IDs being mapped to individual logical IDs; and
3 the logical IDs being configured for use in database queries to locate
4 metadata associated with specific media, wherein different instances of a specific
5 media with the same content thereon are associated with different physical IDs
6 that are mappable to the same logical ID.

7
8 52. (Original) The system of claim 51 further comprising at least one
9 other table containing multiple physical IDs and multiple logical IDs, individual
10 physical IDs being mapped to individual logical IDs.

11
12 53. (Original) The system of claim 52, wherein the canonical table is
13 trusted.

14
15 54. (Original) The system of claim 52, wherein the canonical table is
16 trusted, and the at least one other table is less trusted.

17
18 55. (Original) The system of claim 52, wherein the at least one other
19 table comprise user-provided mappings.

20
21 56. (Currently Amended) A method of processing media content
22 comprising:

23 receiving a physical ID that corresponds to a specific CD upon which
24 content resides that can be experienced by a user;
25 mapping the physical ID to a logical ID;

1 searching a database that contains metadata associated with the CD by
2 using the logical ID as a basis for a search query;
3 formatting the metadata in a XML schema; and
4 returning the formatted metadata to a client, wherein different instances of a
5 specific CD with the same content thereon are associated with different physical
6 IDs that are mappable to the same logical ID.

7
8 57. (Original) The method of claim 56, wherein the XML schema
9 comprises tags associated with one or more of: a CD name, author, release date,
10 genre, style, rating and label.

11
12 58. (Original) The method of claim 56, wherein the XML schema
13 comprises at least one tag associated with a URL associated with data pertaining
14 to the CD.

15
16 59. (Original) The method of claim 56, wherein the XML schema
17 comprises at least one tag associated with a URL associated with data pertaining
18 to cover art for the CD.

19
20 60. (Original) The method of claim 56, wherein the XML schema
21 comprises at least one tag associated with a URL associated with data pertaining
22 to a purchasing experience.

23
24 61. (Currently Amended) A method of processing media content
25 comprising:

1 receiving a physical ID that corresponds to a specific DVD upon which
2 content resides that can be experienced by a user;
3 mapping the physical ID to a logical ID;
4 searching a database that contains metadata associated with the DVD by
5 using the logical ID as a basis for a search query;
6 formatting the metadata in a XML schema; and
7 returning the formatted metadata to a client, wherein different instances of a
8 specific DVD with the same content thereon are associated with different physical
9 IDs that are mappable to the same logical ID.

10
11 62. (Original) The method of claim 61, wherein the XML schema
12 comprises tags associated with one or more of: a title, studio, lead performer,
13 director, rating, and genre.

14
15 63. (Original) An XML schema comprising:
16 a name tag associated with a CD name;
17 an author tag associated with a CD author;
18 a track tag associated with a CD track;
19 at least one URL tag referencing a link to additional information pertaining
20 to the CD; and
21 the schema being configured for use in sending metadata associated with a
22 CD to client computer for display for a user.

1 64. (Original) The XML schema of claim 63, wherein said link
2 comprises a purchasing link to enable a user to make purchases associated with the
3 CD via a network.

4
5 65. (Original) The XML schema of claim 63, wherein said link
6 comprises a cover art link to enable a user to obtain cover art associated with the
7 CD via a network.

8
9 66. (Original) An XML schema comprising:
10 a title tag associated with a title of a movie embodied on a DVD; and
11 at least one URL tag referencing a link to additional information pertaining
12 to the DVD.

13
14 67. (Original) The XML schema of claim 66, wherein said link
15 comprises an art link to enable a user to obtain art associated with the DVD via a
16 network.

17
18 68. (Original) The XML schema of claim 66, wherein said link
19 comprises a purchase link to enable a user to make purchases associated with the
20 DVD via a network.

21
22 69. (Original) A method of processing media content comprising:
23 generating a physical ID that corresponds to a specific media upon which
24 content resides that can be experienced by a user on a client computer;
25

1 sending the physical ID to a server configured to return metadata associated
2 with the specific media;
3 receiving, from the server, XML-formatted metadata;
4 parsing, with the client computer, the XML-formatted metadata; and
5 displaying the metadata for the user on the client computer.

6
7 70. (Original) The method of claim 69, wherein the specific media
8 comprises a CD.

9
10 71. (Original) The method of claim 69, wherein the specific media
11 comprises a DVD.

12
13 72. (Original) A method of providing metadata to a client comprising:
14 establishing a table that contains user-provided entries that map physical
15 IDs to logical IDs, the physical IDs corresponding to specific media upon which
16 content resides that can be experienced by various users, the logical IDs being
17 configured for use in querying one or more databases that contain metadata
18 associated with the specific media, the metadata being returnable to a client;
19 statistically evaluating the entries to determine, for each physical ID, a most
20 likely logical ID match; and
21 making the most likely logical ID match available so that it can be used to
22 query the one or more databases.

23
24 73. (Original) The method of claim 72, wherein said making comprises
25 providing the logical ID into a trusted table of physical ID-to-logical ID mappings.

1
2 74. (Original) A method of providing metadata to a client comprising:
3 providing a table containing user-provided entries that map physical IDs to
4 logical IDs, the physical IDs corresponding to specific media upon which content
5 resides that can be experienced by various users, the logical IDs being configured
6 for use in querying one or more databases that contain metadata associated with
7 the specific media, the metadata being returnable to a client;
8 computing, from the table, a list of physical IDs that are to be statistically
9 evaluated;
10 for each listed physical ID, ascertaining the logical IDs that have been
11 associated with it by users;
12 computing a distribution of logical IDs for a given physical ID, the
13 distribution describing, for each logical ID, the number of times the physical ID
14 has been mapped thereto;
15 adding to the distribution, an entry that corresponds to a current trusted
16 logical ID mapping;
17 weighting the added entry; and
18 computing, from the distribution, a most likely physical ID to logical ID
19 match.

20
21 75. (Original) The method of claim 74 further comprising updating a
22 canonical table of trusted mappings with the most likely physical ID to logical ID
23 match.
24
25

1 76. (Original) The method of claim 74, wherein said computing a most
2 likely physical ID to logical ID match comprises:

3 computing a distribution count that sums the total number of times a
4 physical ID has been mapped to a logical ID;

5 calculating, for each logical ID, a percentage as a function of the summed
6 distribution count; and

7 selecting a logical ID that has a percentage that meets predefined criteria.
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